

pitch between the electrodes to be smaller than the second particle diameter. Accordingly, it is impossible to satisfy downsizing of the pitch between the electrodes.

Further, as shown the Fig. 1 of Jin et al., it is necessary to increase the thickness of the film to be more than several times in comparison to the particle diameter of the second particles in order to orient a plurality of the second particles in the thickness direction of the film. As described *supra*, it is apparent from the results of Sample 3 that, in the film having such a large thickness, a large amount of resin interposed between the second particles oriented in the thickness direction of the film is not smoothly discharged from between the second particles due to the pressure at the time of thermal bonding. As a result, the resin remaining therein hinders the electrical connection between the adjacent second particles, thereby resulting in deteriorating conductivity in the thickness direction of the film.

Conclusion

It is submitted that the claims 1-17 are patentable over the teachings of the prior art relied upon by the Examiner. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the claims is requested in light of the remarks. Allowance of the claims is courteously solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

A petition for a three-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and due in

Application No.: 10/506,425

connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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